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DEADPOOL®



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END OF THE ROAD

PART:2

OKAY, FOR THOSE OF YOU ON YOUR COUCHES JOINING US AFTER THE COMMERCIAL...

...MY NAME IS DEADPOOL. I'M A MERCENARY-FOR-HIRE, AND THE GUY CLEARLY IN CHARGE HERE.

THE GUY PLAYING THE SAD TREADING-WATER SCENE FROM TITANIC IS THE PUNISHER, VIGILANTE TYPE.

USUALLY HE'S A PRETTY TOUGH GUY, BUT NOT TODAY.

I'M BEING PAID A LOT OF MONEY TO MAKE SURE HE SPENDS A LOT MORE TIME SWIMMING WITH THE FISHES.

THIS IS THE END OF THE ROAD FOR YOU PUNISHER.

I KNOW THIS BECAUSE TYLER DURDEN KNOWS THIS.

SHROUDED IN STOLEN IDENTITIES AND CLANDESTINE SECRETS, THE MERC-WITH-A-MOUTH IS A MAN OF MYSTERY. HERO? VILLAIN? SOCIOPATH? DEADPOOL MAKES HIS OWN RULES AND PLAYS BY NOBODY'S GAME. HE IS AN AGENT OF CHAOS CONFINED TO A WORLD OF CONSTRICTING ORDER!

STAN LEE PRESENTS:

DEADPOOL

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DON'T WORRY, I'LL SAVE YOU THE PAIN AND DO YOU FIRST, PUNISHER.

BUT LET'S WAIT A SEC TILL THE EVENTUANCES SHOW UP. NEED A LITTLE PROOF, YA KNOW?



NO? I GUESS YA DON'T.

ANYHOO, I BETCHA I KNOW WHAT YOU'RE THINKING. HOW DID THE OLD 'POOLMAN SURVIVE TWO SHOTS TO THE GUT FROM YOUR HOLLOW-POINT BULLETS?

WELL, 'TWEEN YOU, ME AND THIS RAFT, I GOT A CANDY-COATED HEALING FACTOR THAT MAKES ME TOUGHER THAN SITTING THROUGH AN EPISODE OF THE LONE GUNNER.



HOLD IT RIGHT THERE, YOU TWO! THE PUNISHER IS UNDER ARREST!



WHOO! HERE COME YOUR BUDDIES NOW.

ANY FAMOUS LAST WORDS BEFORE I CHECK TO SEE IF YOU HAVE THE SAME NIFTY HEALING POWER?



"WANT TO CALL MOMMY TO LET HER KNOW YOU'LL BE DEAD LATE FOR DINNER TONIGHT?"



YEEPPERS! BE CAREFUL WITH THAT! THAT'S A KNIFE!

SSAASHH!

AW, SHIT! I DROPPED MY FAVORITE POPGUN!



THAT'S IT! NOW I'M BBLURRBLED!

I WANTED TO BRING THAT BBLURBLING! RAFT HOME WITH ME!



MERCENARY RULE #1:
IF THE COPS SHOW UP,
MAKE LIKE A TROUT AND
GET THE GUNNERS OUT!

FWIZZZZZZ!
SPWIZZZZZZ!

HEY THAT
RHYMED!

DON'T KNOW WHY THE
PUNISHER'S STRIPPING
DOWN, BUT NOW AIN'T
THE TIME TO GET KINKY.

MAYBE LATER WE'LL HAVE
TIME FOR A BUBBLE BATH,
BUT NOW...

YAAAA! JAWS!
LAND SHARK!
PRINCE NAMOR!

SLICE

YOWCH!

NOW WHY WOULD THE
PUNISHER DO THAT? HE
KNOWS I'M GONNA HEAL
BEFORE I'M EVEN OUT
OF THE WATER!

"CEASE FIRE, MEN!
I THINK WE'VE
HIT SOMEONE!"

I'M AMANDA
BALLARD FOR JMW.
FOR THIS MORNING'S
TOP STORY, WE GO
LIVE TO GLENN
BIRDING.



THANK
YOU
AMANDA.

I'M HERE IN
BROOKLYN WHERE
POLICE OFFICIALS SAY
THEY HAVE FINALLY ENDED
THE REIGN OF TERROR
CAUSED BY THE MURDERING
OUTLAW KNOWN AS THE
PUNISHER AFTER HE
EXECUTED TWO MOBSTERS
ON THE VERAZZANO
BRIDGE LAST
NIGHT.

POLICE
CONFIRMED THAT
THE VIGILANTE KNOWN
AS DEADPOOL WAS
ALSO ON THE
SCENE.

I'M HERE
WITH NYPD OFFICER
BILL HOSEK. WHAT
HAPPENED TONIGHT
OFFICER?

WELL
TO PUT IT
SIMPLY,
GLENN...

I KILLED 'IM!
WHOO! I SHOT
THE PUNISHER!
WHOOHOO! GO
YANKERS!

HE
I...SHE...
THEY...

HE'S
DEAD! THE
PUNISHER IS
DEAD!

WHICH MEANS
I'M ~~GOING TO~~ RICH, BABY!
PETER GUICCI, YOU'RE
A MILLIONAIRE!

I'M
INHERITING ALL
MY DEAD ALNT'S
MONEY!! WHAA-
HOOO!

AND IF
THAT COP KILLED
THE PUNISHER LIKE
HE SAID HE DID--AND
DEADPOOL DIDN'T--
THAT MEANS THE
MONEY'S ALL
MINE!

I DON'T
OWE THAT
MERCENARY
A CENT?

...THE
PINK ... WHAT ...
BOUTIQUE?

... HAVE A
D-BATTERY WITH YOU?
OUTSTANDING!

SEE? IT
VIBRATES

HUHH--? WHOA,
HONEY GO EASY ON THE
STEREOPS. YOUR FACE IS
STARTING TO LOOK LIKE
AGATHA HARKNESS.

OH,
IT'S YOU. I WAS
JUST REMEMBERING
A REALLY BAD DREAM
INVOLVING MARTHA
STEWART.

CUT ME
DOWN, AND I'LL
RE-EVACT IT
FOR YOU.

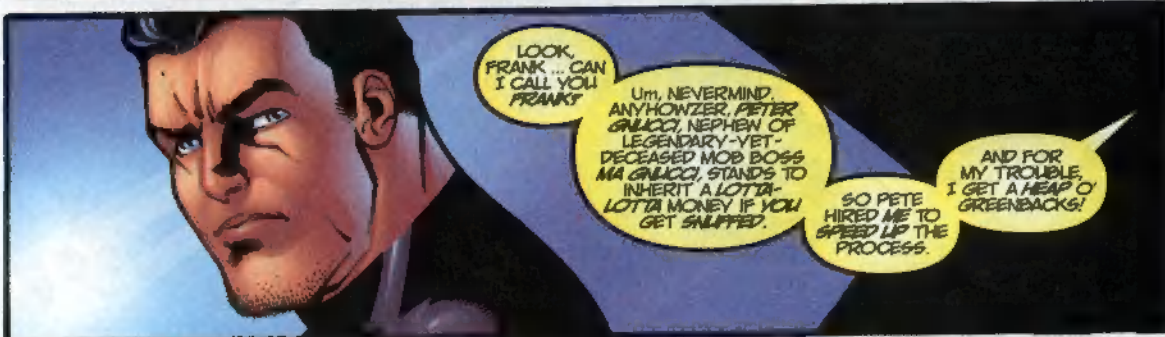
OR ... I CAN
JUST HANG HERE
TILL MY HEAD EXPLODES
FROM AN ANEURYSM AND
COVERS YOUR WALLS IN
'POOLERANE'!

3SIGH

EITHER WAY, I
NEED TO KILL YOU.
NOTHING PERSONAL,
BUT THERE'S A LOT
OF MONEY ON THE
LINE.

SO BE A
SWEETIE AND
CUT ME DOWN
SO I CAN
SLASH YOUR
THROAT







I'VE HEARD A LOT ABOUT YOU, FRANKO.

YOU WERE SOME BIG DECORATED WAR PIG, RIGHT?



THEN SOME SORTA BAD THING HAPPENED THAT MADE YOU SNAP.

LIFE WAS GOOD FOR YOU. NICE LIFE IN THE BURBS. GOOD JOB BLAND HAIRCUT...

...YOU HAD IT ALL. SO WHAT HAPPENED?



OFFENDED BY EMINEM'S LYRICS?

DIDN'T GET A PRIZE FROM THE BOTTOM OF A CRACKER JACK BOX?

WIFE AND KIDS GET SLAUGHTERED BEFORE YOUR EYES?

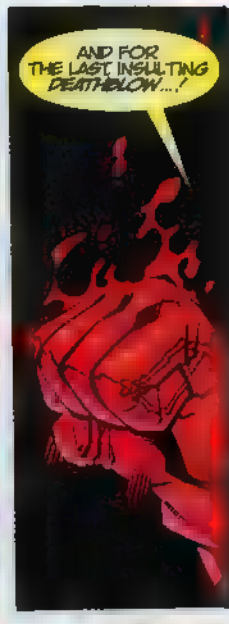
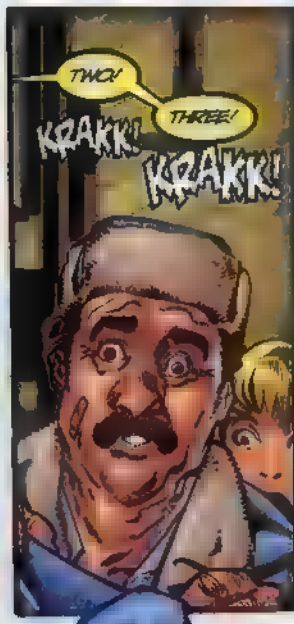
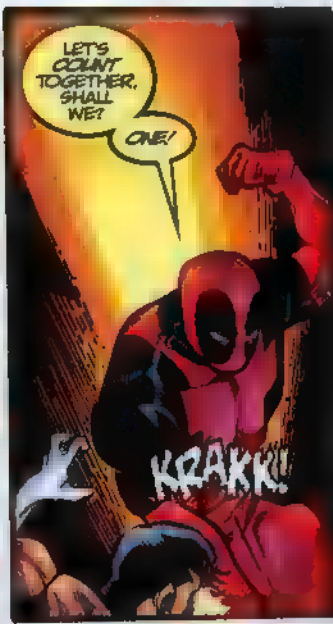
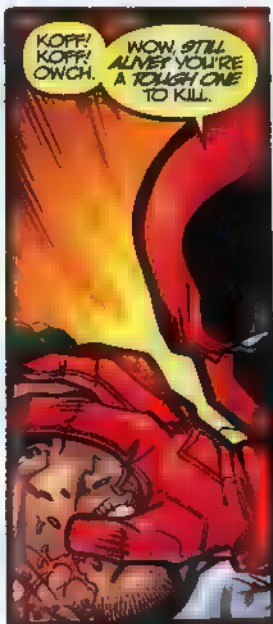


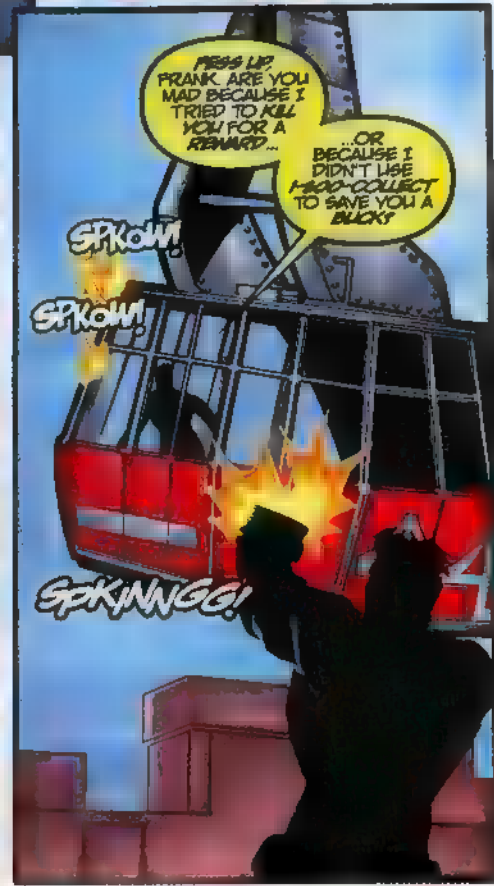
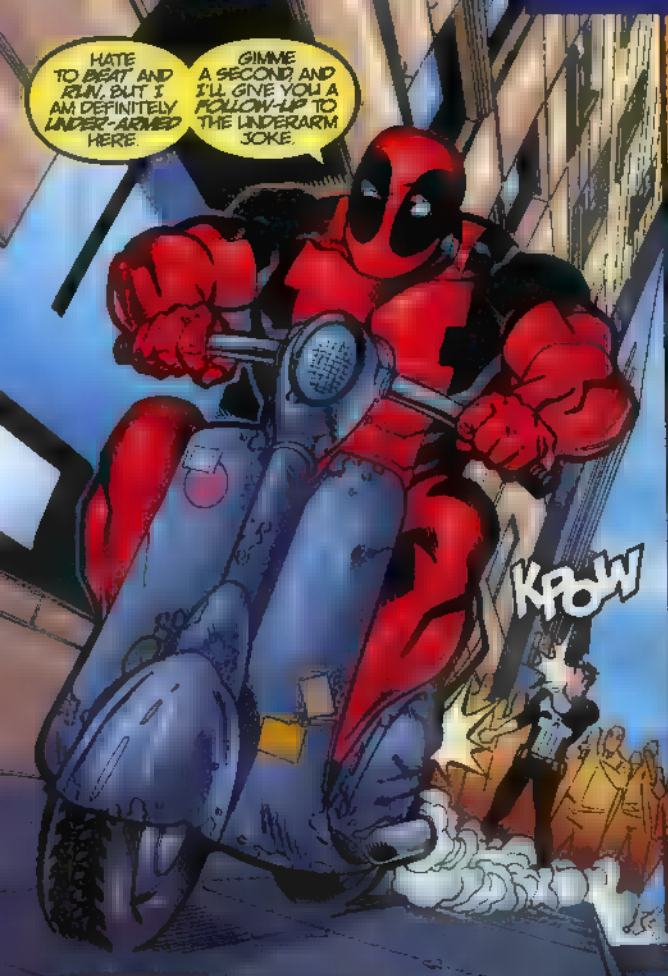
ENOUGH!

WHIFFITY WAS IT THE PIG COMMENT?









BLAM!

FRANK,
YOU GOTTA
HELP ME.

I'M
TRAPPED IN
HERE WITH SCHOOL-
CHILDREN, NUNS AND
LAWYERS!

PINK

PINK

PINK

CHOOH

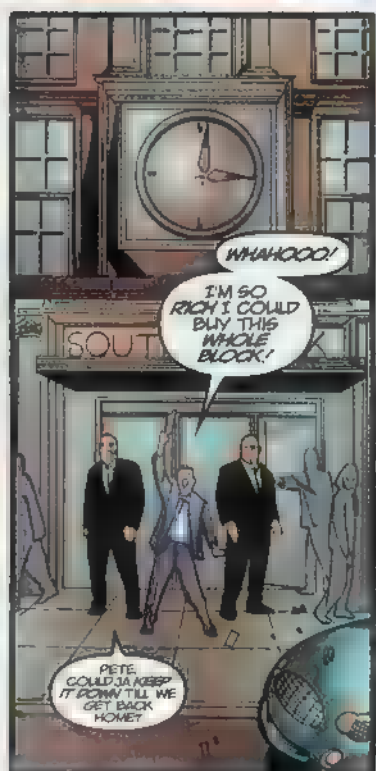
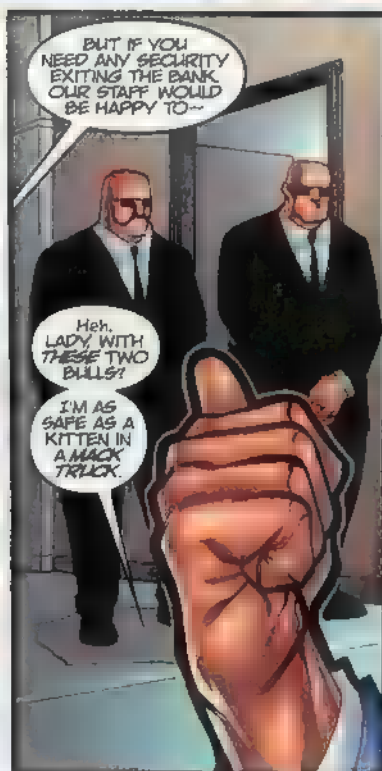
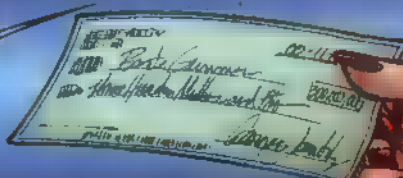
AHHH
G***, I SHOULDN'T
HAVE MENTIONED
THE NUNS.

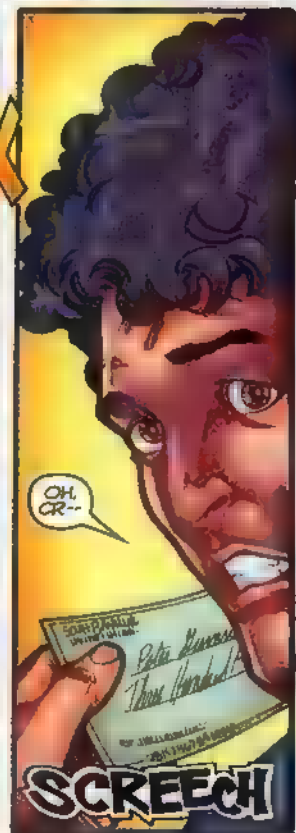
KRUNCH!



MEANWHILE, IN ANOTHER PART OF THE CITY...

THAT'S IT, MR. GNUCCI. THIS CHECK COVERS THE \$500 MILLION FOR LIQUIDATING YOUR AUNT'S ESTATE.







AARGH!
THE HORROR!
THE HORROR!
I THINK I
BROKE MY
PINKIE!

AND OF
ALL THE THINGS
IN NEW YORK
THAT I COULD
HIT, I COLLIDE
WITH A PARKED
BUS!

Oh, the
shame...



...BUT YOU'LL
NEVER GUESS
WHAT I FOUND
INSIDE THIS
MESS!

FRUIT
ROLLUPS!



COME ON,
FRANK! WANNA
TASTE ONE?

THEY'RE
FULL OF
FRUIT
FLAV!

AND
THEY'RE
FORTIFIED
WITH
IRON!



CHRIST THE TWINS ARE CRYING, AND I NEED YOU TO...

HOLD ON, HONEY. I'VE GOT A PROBLEM HERE.

KKKKRLNCH

UHH, YOU BUSTED THE MIRROR ON MY TRUCK, MAN.

THESE ARE DESPERATE TIMES, BRONE S.H.V. MAN!
BUT DEADPOOL IS HERE WITH HIS MIGHTY FRUIT ROLLUP TO SAVE THE DAY!

KLONK

SLAP

PUNTS!

OOF! FRANK! I WAS JUST PLAYIN', MAN!

GEE WHIZ! I DIDN'T KNOW IT WAS REAL! I THOUGHT IT WAS ONE OF THOSE NERF LEAD PIPES!

KEEDYUSCHU!



DON'T YOU EVER SHUT UP!!

Heh, RARELY WOULD YOU PREFER I TALK TO YOU IN MY ELVIS VOICE? THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

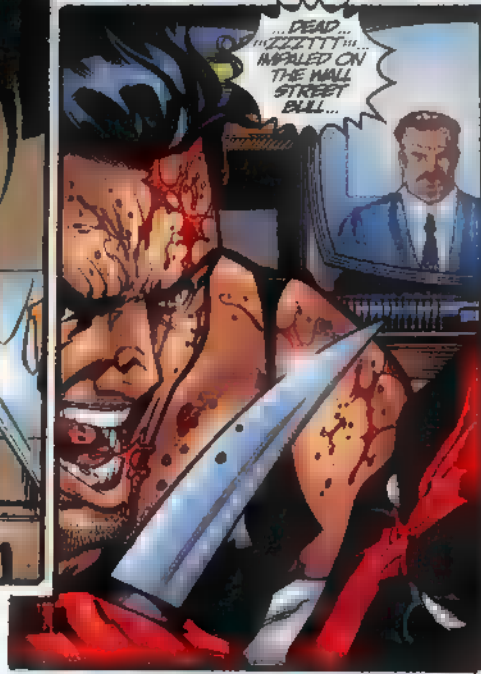
"ZZZZTTT"... THIS JUST IN... REPORTS THAT PETER GNUGGI, WHO INHERITED THE... "ZZZZTTT"... VAST FORTUNE OF MOB BOSS MA GNUGGI... "ZZZZTTT"...

GRUNTS



15

SCHLING



DEAD... "ZZZZTTT"... INFERRED ON THE WALL STREET BULL...



...THE SYMBOL... "ZZZZTTT"... OF NEW YORK'S STOCK EXCHANGE.



HEY, WHADDYA KNOW? WITH PETER-PIPER GNUGGI DEAD, I GUESS I WON'T BE COLLECTING MY \$3 MIL FOR MAKING YOU LESS ALIVE.

YOU WANNA CELEBRATE OUR NEW FRIENDSHIP AND GRAB A STEAKY BULL - STEAK... GET IT?

FRANK!



FRANK,
YOU SHOULD
SEE THE PICTURE
ON THIS TELEVISION!
IT'S ALMOST
3-D!

ALTHOUGH,
I'LL BE FRANK, IT
PROBABLY AIN'T TOO
GOOD FOR MY EYES
TO BE SITTING THIS
CLOSE TO THE
TV.

I'LL BE
"FRANK"... heh.
HEY, FRANK, THAT
WAS MY FIRST
DUMB FUN OF
THE DAY!

FRANK!
YOU STILL
THERE?

AND NEXT
ON HOME BOX
THEATRE...

COMBINING
TWO CLASSIC
FILMS, HBO PROUDLY
PRESENTS 'VALE',
WHERE'S MY
AMERICAN PIE?

HOPE
THIS ONE
HAS SOME
NUDDY.

SIGH: IT'S JUST SO MUCH
LESS FUN MAKING JOKE
WHEN THERE'S NOBODY
AROUND TO ANNOUNCE.

IT'S LIKE HAVING HALITOSIS
IN AN ELEVATOR WITH
NOBODY TO SHARE IT WITH.

IT JUST
STINKS TO
BE ALONE.

FACE IT, WADE. AS
DEADPOOL, YOU'RE
A SMASH AT PARTIES
AND BAR MITZVAHS.

BUT WITHOUT
VANESSA...

...YOU'RE JUST A
SHALLOW POOL.

I MISS
HER.

ONE HOUR, ONE
BREATH MINT, AND
A HANDSOME NEW
FACE ON THE IMAGE
INDUCER LATER.

DING
DONG

I'M
COMING!

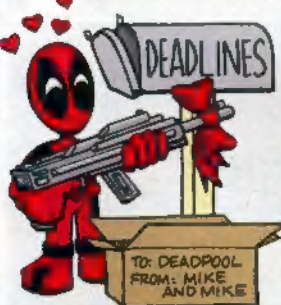
THIS
BETTER BE
GOOD!



MADE...?

FACE IT,
VANESSA, YOU
JUST HIT THE
JACKPOT.

NEXT ISSUE:
COPYCAT,
SIRYN,
DEADPOOL.
AND SHARP OBJECTS!
NEED WE SAY MORE?
SEE YOU IN 30 DAYS!



DEAD LINES

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IF YOU DON'T WANT YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS PRINTED, PLEASE LET US KNOW. LETTERS MAY BE EDITED FOR CONTENT AND LENGTH. MAKE S-MAIL YOURY TO PRINT

MIKE RAICHT
ASSISTANT
EDITOR
MIKE MARTS
EDITOR
JOE GUESADA
CHIEF

Page 1: Tyler Durden appeared in Fight Club. Since we don't want to ruin the movie by explaining the joke, go rent the movie! We highly recommend the DVD version! (But before renting, make sure you're old enough or get your parent's permission!) — MIKE & MIKE

Page 9: The Punisher's family was killed in Central Park by members of the Costello crime family. This horrifying origin tale was told in MARVEL PREVIEW #2. Good luck finding that one!

Page 11: Though never shown on panel, Deadpool's phone bill is awfully high.

Page 22: Much prettier than Deadpool, Mary Jane Watson uttered those same famous words in her first on-panel appearance in the classic AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #42.

First things first. In DEADPOOL #53 we accidentally credited Tom Chu with the coloring credit instead of our good friends from VLM (yes, even we make mistakes — though between you and me, it was really the other Mike's fault. — MIKE & MIKE). And we all agree they did a stupendous job. Take a bow, VLM! Now, since no worlds were destroyed (or feelings hurt), we can continue on to our normal letters page activities!

Dear DEADPOOL,

Let's see, Jimmy Palmiotti is currently writing DEADPOOL. Steve Dillon is doing a cover. Both worked on PUNISHER with Garth Ennis. I'm going to take a wild guess and say that they're all pretty close friends. So tell me, when is Ennis going to get off his Irish arse and write a blasted DEADPOOL limited series (hopefully for Marvel Knights)?! Someone let him know that there's a free Guinness in it if he does!

Ryan Colvard
(address withheld by request)

We'd love to see Garth write DEADPOOL too, Ryan, but obviously he's pretty busy with that other cold-blooded killer ... you know, the one that's been running around this little for the past two months? (That's the Punisher for all of you who only buy this book for the letters page. — MIKE & MIKE)

And, yup, all three wacky comic creators—Palmiotti, Ennis and Dillon—are great buds. But the way we hear it, Garth would probably prefer a Sierra Nevada over a Guinness!

Dear Deadlines,

I just want to say that DEADPOOL is by far one of the best comic series on the stand today, if not THE BEST. I can't praise you guys enough for doing such a great job keeping this series alive and making every issue better than the previous one.

One thing is troubling me, though, and I thought I'd ask for your opinion.

I really hope they don't make the DEADPOOL movie (unless, that is, Henry Rollins plays Deadpool and the WWF's Chris Jericho plays T-Ray). Deadpool is too good to be sucked into the Hollywood garbage. I've heard rumors that the movie is being done by Artisan so I don't know really what to expect. I was hoping you guys could share what you think about all this and how it would change the future of 'Pool, for better or worse?

Rex
(address withheld by request)

We love DEADPOOL, too, Rex, and while we don't have many details about DP's movie career at this point, you can rest assured that everybody's favorite Merc-with-a-Mouth is safe in the hands of Artisan. I mean, who else could handle our lethal hero better than the people who brought you Blair Witch?

But Hollywood and movies aside, let us take this opportunity to tell you what we have planned for Deadpool over the next few months! First, we've got DP #56, where Buddy Scalera ties up all the dangling plot threads from his and Jimmy Palmiotti's run on this series.

Then in August, a whole new chapter in the DEADPOOL mythos begins ... [Imagine a drum roll here. — MIKE & MIKE] ... DEADPOOL: AGENT OF WEAPON X #1! [Read that last sentence again and imagine it being spoken by the voice of that guy who does all of the movie previews ... pretty cool, huh? — M&M] DEADPOOL: A of WX, a special four-part series, is written by Frank Tieri (of IRON MAN and WOLVERINE fame), and drawn by our very own Georges Jeanty. This special story arc gives us a whole new look into what really makes Deadpool tick!

Dear Deadlines,

DEADPOOL #53 was awesome! Wade's dialogue was perfect. The Merc-with-a-Mouth was finally back in full gear! The scene with the dog was whacked—oh, what a scene! Perfect for a Deadpool story! I loved the Britney jokes and the Band-Aids all over the one girl was hilarious. I guess we won't be seeing the Mercy sisters again! Oh well, the ending was worth it. I hope you sent Britney some copies of this comic! Well, until Mary Mercy becomes the spokesperson for Pepsi, Make Mine Marvel!

Jason Smith
(address withheld by request)

We're glad you enjoyed the issue, Jason. We've gotten a ton of fanmail about the Mercy Sisters, some positive and some negative, but you have to admit, it was a fun yarn! And we'll never look at Band-Aids the same way again ... yech!

To close out this letters page we'd like to thank Jimmy Palmiotti for telling some awesome DEADPOOL stories over the last year. "Cruel Summer" with Paul Chadwick; Kid Deadpool; the Mercy Sisters; the Punisher ... Jimmy really did it all! Jimmy took a chance and came on to this title at a

point when most people weren't taking notice of it ... and a little over a year later, sales have climbed and we're back in the public's eyes again! Thanks, Jimmy, for helping us turn this book around. You gave Deadpool that little bit of an edge that we all know he needed ... and we love you for it. It's been a blast!

Also big props to all the talented interior and cover artists who lent their talents to Jimmy's run: Paul Chadwick, Ron Randall, Joe Jusko, Jim Starlin, Kevin Nowlan, Art Adams, Darick Robertson, Michael Lopez, Amanda Conner, J.H. Williams, Anthony Williams, Andy Lanning, Steve Dillon and Tim Bradstreet. Whew! A veritable who's who of great artists! And some much deserved thanks to our men and women who were with us each and every month lettering and coloring—Shannon Blanchard, Chris Eliopoulos, Tom Chu, Dave Sharpe—and of course the inker of all inkers, the always reliable Jon Holdredge.

And as for Jimmy's writing partner Buddy Scalera, he's got one more tale to tell and it's a good one! Both Jimmy and we, the editors, decided to let Buddy fly solo on this next issue. Expect the unexpected as Deadpool takes on a villainous new villain and goes head-on with not just one—but two ex-girlfriends! With guest artist Karl Kerschl on board it's gonna be hot!

MIKE & MIKE

DEADPOOL #56



NEXT ISSUE:

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOUR EX-GIRLFRIEND COMES CALLING? BUDDY SCALERA AND GUEST ARTIST KARL KERSCHL GIVE US THE DETAILS IN 30!